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| Myths | Realities |
| There was lots of job opportunities.  The West was once seen as the “Great American Desert”.  “Cowboys” – they were one of the most popular people in the West, they had lots of adventures.  The frontier was an unpopulated world.  The mines were called as a get-rich-quick place. | Due to the waves of immigration and cheap labor, there were few job slots.  The West was not just a desert, in the Southeast it was, but there were also fertile lands for crops and good places for civilization.  It was boring and it was very difficult to live since they had received low wages; also very lonely and depressing.  The frontier was filled with many people with a range of cultures, such as Asian and Mexican.  It took a long time to get there and it had low success rates. |